

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for the Urban District of Clevedon for the year 1950.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you a report upon the health and sanitary conditions of the Urban District for the year 1950 and to include therein extracts from your Sanitary Inspector's report for the same period.

In spite of the almost complete absence of summer weather followed by a wet and rather cold winter the general health of the people has been fairly well maintained and there has been no serious epidemic visitation.

Whooping cough, which was smouldering during the early months of the year assumed epidemic proportions from June onwards but was not attended by any fatalities though some cases gave rise to considerable anxiety. Then in December measles appeared and spread in increasing numbers into the new year.

While there has again been no case of diphtheria it is hoped that parents and guardians will not become complaisant but will continue to have their children immunised against this serious disease. The figures for local and national efforts conclusively demonstrate the control which this protective method has exercised over the incidence and mortality of this disease.

It is unfortunately not possible to report a similar readiness to protect children and the community against smallpox, by vaccination.

In common with the rest of the country we have to record a quota of Poliomyelitis during the year when four cases were notified, fortunately without fatality. They were all males aged 14, 17, 41 and 46. Though no definite contacts could be established all but the youngest were presumably infected outside the town.

The corrected local Death Rate is 11.9 per thousand as compared with 11.6 for the whole country and we have the high average age at death of 72.3 years. The composition of the local population is further reflected in the corrected Birth Rate of 14.3 compared with 15.8 for the whole country.

The public water supply is ample in quantity and has regularly been found to be pure in quality though chlorination is regarded as a necessary precaution against contamination in the catchment area. There is a piped supply to the whole district though in one hamlet it is not laid on to all the individual houses.

The main sewerage system in the lower part of the town to which a considerable new load has been added from the new housing estates is under review at the moment and will call for very serious consideration and probable reconstruction. Some flooding in this part of the town during the winter and spring has caused great nuisance and hardship and is now being dealt with.

The refuse dump which has given trouble in the past still calls for attention to prevent nuisance from flies and offensive smell. Fortunately negotiations for the lease of a new dump far removed from human habitation are almost completed, which will solve a difficult modern problem.

I have pleasure in acknowledging with thanks the ready help and co-operation of all members of your staff and also of my colleagues and of the County and Bristol Health authorities.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

G. MACLEOD

30th June 1951

Statistics

Area	...	3292 acres
Registrar General's estimate of population	...	9765
Number of inhabited houses and flats	...	2901
Rateable value as at 1st April 1951	...	£80453
Estimated product of penny rate	...	£323

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	63	58	121
Illegitimate	2	1	3

Birth Rate per 1000 of population = 14.3 (corrected)

<u>Still Births</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	0	2	2
Illegitimate	0	0	0

Still Birth Rate per 1000 of population = 0.2

<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
	72	100	172

Average age at death = 72.3 years

Death Rate per 1000 = 11.9 (corrected)

Deaths of infants under one year -

<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
2	0	2

Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 live births = 16

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks = 1

Comparability Factors, For Births = 1.13
For Deaths = 0.68

Some of the principal causes of death:-

Cancer and Malignant Disease	...	34
Influenza	.....	3
Pneumonia	.....	2
Bronchitis	.....	8
Vascular Disease of Nervous System	.....	20
Coronary Disease	.....	19
Heart & other Circulatory Disease	.....	44
Measles, Whooping Cough, Diphtheria, Tuberculosis, & other notifiable diseases	....	0

Public Health Staff

G. Macleod, M.A., M.D., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health
(part-time)

T.H. Chambers, M.I.Mun.E., M.I.H.E., M.R.San.I.
Engineer, Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector

Notifiable Diseases

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Cases notified</u>	<u>Admitted to hospital</u>	<u>Deaths</u>
Measles	16	0	0
Whooping Cough	121	0	0
Scarlet Fever	4	0	0
Pneumonia	3	1	2
Poliomyelitis	4	4	0
Bacillary Dysentery	2	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	0
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	9		0
Other do.	2		0

Tuberculosis:-

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non Pulmonary</u>	
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
5-15	0	0	0	1
15-25	1	0	0	0
25-35	1	2	1	0
35-45	1	1		
45-55	2	0		
55 & over	0	1		
	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

Housing

	<u>Houses erected during year</u>		<u>Houses in course of erection</u>		<u>Conversion to flats or dwellings</u>	
	<u>Perm.</u>	<u>Tempy.</u>	<u>Perm.</u>	<u>Tempy.</u>	<u>Perm.</u>	<u>Tempy.</u>
Local Authority	24	0	0	22	0	0
Private Enterprise	<u>6</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>30</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>

Total number of Post War Houses completed by:-

- (a) Local Authority - 24
- (b) Private Enterprise - 6

Grants made under Housing Act, 1949

Applications received - nil

Houses condemned as totally unfit - nil

Houses required

- (a) To replace those unfit - 20
- (b) To abate overcrowding - 10
- (c) Where conditions are unsatisfactory
e.g. two families living in same house
but not included in (a) or (b) - 203

Total number of applicants for Council houses at end of the year - 260

Food

Milk

- (a) Number of Registered Dairies - 28
- (b) Number of Retailers in area - 16
- (c) Number of supplementary licences to dealers or distributors with dairies outside the area - 3

Ice Cream

Premises registered for:-

- (a) Manufacture and retail - 6
- (b) Manufacture only - 0
- (c) Retail only - 30

